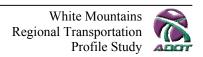
# ADOT White Mountains Regional Transportation Profile Study

Technical Advisory Committee April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - 10:00 a.m.

Navajo County Show Low Road Yard 1100 E. Thorton Road Show Low, Az 85901

Hand-Out





## White Mountain Regional Transportation Profile Study

## **Technical Advisory Meeting**

04/17/2007 - 10:00 a.m.

Navajo County Show Low Road Yard 1100 E. Thorton Road Show Low, AZ, 85901

# Agenda

## 1. Meeting Purpose and Introductions

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Role of Technical Advisory Committee
- 3. Stakeholder Identification

### 2. Study Overview

- 1. Purpose
- 2. Objectives
- 3. Study Area
- 4. Approach
- 5. Study Team
- 6. Schedule

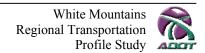
## 3. Existing Conditions

- 1. Outline
- 2. Mapping

#### 4. Discussion – Issue Identification

5. Next Steps





#### INTRODUCTION

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) is currently conducting 11 Regional Transportation Profile Studies across the State. Goal of the Profile studies is to identify expected future transportation system needs and deficiencies and the potential capital projects designed to mitigate those deficiencies. All profiles are conducted according to ADOT's Regional Transportation Profile Guidelines that provide a common evaluation framework. The Profile guidelines provide a foundation for needs and deficiency analyses and project evaluations that will be consistent with the performance-based planning concepts developed for the Arizona Long-Range Transportation Plan (MoveAZ). The Profile guidelines will help ensure that each region of the State is treated equally in the analysis of needs and deficiencies and the identification and evaluation of projects. The White Mountain Regional Transportation Profile Study (WMRTPS) will follow the Regional Transportation Profile Guidelines, knowing that these guidelines are currently under slight revision by ADOT. While following the guidance provided by the guidelines emphasis will be placed on the local issues and concern of the WRTPS stakeholders and residents.

The purpose of the **WMRTPS** is to analyze the needs and deficiencies of the state highway system within the study area. Objectives of the Profile Study include:

- Using existing data to the extent possible and incorporate findings of recent studies
- Providing a clear understanding of the current conditions and future needs of the state highway system.
- Identifying deficiencies utilizing the HERS-ST program and process
- Identifying a set of projects and recommended improvements
- Conducting the study in compliance with new federal guidelines and State Statutes
- Identifying those segments of the State Highway system that even with future improvements will not provide adequate level of service
- Identify the potential need for new parallel, bypass, and/or reliever roadway corridors
- Coordinate with other ongoing profile studies

The following steps will be carried out to conduct the study.

**Table 1. Process Steps** 

Step	
1.	PROJECT INITIATION
2.	DATA COLLECTION AND FORECASTING
3.	IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE NEEDS AND DEFICIENCIES
4.	ROUND ONE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
5.	DEVELOPMENT OF A PROGRAM PRIORITIZED PROJECTS
6.	ROUND TWO PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
7.	FINAL DOCUMENTATION



#### **Study Area Description**

The White Mountain Regional Transportation Profile Study area encompasses some of the most diverse landscape in the State with a wide range of topography and climate, ranging in elevation from 2,700 feet at the Salt River Canyon to over 11,000 feet atop Mount Baldy. The area is home to diverse communities including the White Mountain Apache and San Carlos Apache Indian Tribes, Alpine, Eagar, Fort Apache, Greer, Heber, Pinetop-Lakeside, Show Low, Snowflake, Springerville, St. Johns, Taylor, and White River. The economic center of the study area is the urbanized area of Show Low / Pinetop-Lakeside with an estimated population of close to 28,000 residents combined. The Snow Flake/Taylor area is home to another 7,400 residents.

The area can be reached in a three hour drive from the Phoenix Metropolitan area and accessibility in the region is primarily provided by the State Highway System. Many of the State Routes serve as "Main streets" for most of the communities in the White Mountain region providing both mobility as well as direct access to the stores and economic activities along the routes.

#### **Preliminary Issues**

The corridors identified for this study effort represent over **730 miles of state highways** including a mixture of roadway types and classifications. Preliminary study issues include:

- SR 77, SR 260, and US 60 are on the National Highway System.
- The SR 260 / US 60 corridor is a major (non interstate) east west corridor.
- US 191 and the US 60 / SR 77 corridor provide north south connectivity.
- SR 73 is the main access route for the White Mountain Apache tribe.
- A Port of Entry to New Mexico is located in the Town of Springerville.
- There is a need for parallel routes as well as emergency routes.
- Land ownership within the study area varies.
- Stakeholder include the Holbrook and Globe ADOT Engineering Districts, NACOG and CAAG (Rural Council of Governments), Transportation Board District 5 and 4, as well as the jurisdictions and Indian Communities.
- This study effort has unique challenges and opportunities to this rural but fast growing part of Arizona. These include:
  - o Rapid residential development utilizing traditionally rural state routes
  - Seasonal variation in population and traffic
  - o Tourism
  - High development pressure
  - Access management



